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In all of these experiments the time between the collection of the material from the patient and its inoculation into the volunteers was in the neighborhood of 3 or 4 hours. The conditions under which it was necessary to conduct experiments did not permit of a shorter interval. The unfiltered suspensions which were used were submitted to cultural examination after inoculation and found to contain living organisms as follows: Pfeiffer's bacillus, pneumococci of group 4, and hæmolytic streptococci.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—The foregoing experiments, though extremely interesting, do not, of course, warrant final conclusions. It is hoped that it may be possible to carry the studies further and that results may be obtained that will definitely settle the nature and the mode of spread of the virus of epidemic influenza. For the present the sanitarian will do well to continue to apply the general principles of control that are based on the justifiable assumption that the disease is a droplet infection, giving, however, increased attention to a point that is suggested by these experiments—namely, an infective period at the very earliest stages of the attack.

It would seem to be wise to give renewed emphasis to the importance of going to bed at the slightest indications of illness.

EPIDEMIC INFLUENZA.

PREVALENCE IN THE UNITED STATES.

The prevalence of influenza in the United States, as reported to the Public Health Service by State health officers, is shown under the heading "Current State Summaries," page 46, of this issue of the Public Health Reports. In general, the reports do not show decided changes in the number of cases of the disease as compared with the preceding week.

Slight increases in the number of cases are reported from Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oregon, Vermont, and Virginia. Slight decreases in the number of cases are reported from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, and Michigan.

The cases reported in the zones around military camps are shown on page 50. Data from these zones for preceding weeks are given in the Public Health Reports, vol. 34, No. 1, January 3, 1919, pages 1 and 2.

RURAL SANITATION A PRESENT NECESSITY.

Time and again students of public health have called attention to the backward state of sanitary conditions in rural districts and to the influence of this on the health of city dwellers. There is considerable evidence, moreover, to show that whereas in cities health conditions,